

STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL

RE: *Reporting Requirements for U.S. Providers of International Telecommunications Services*, Amendment of Part 43 of the Commission's Rules, IB Docket No. 04-112, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-76

International Settlements Policy Reform, IB Docket No. 05-254, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-75

In my view, it is always a bright day when the Commission removes from its books unnecessary and outdated rules. This agency should constantly scrutinize its regulations to ensure that legacy mandates do not inhibit investment and innovation or impose undue costs that are ultimately paid for by consumers.

Today, the FCC takes a small but positive step toward eliminating unnecessary reporting requirements regarding international telephone service. The Commission is also issuing a further notice seeking comment on streamlining remaining international data reporting to ensure our rules are relevant in light of a rapidly evolving market. Furthermore, we are also voting on a companion notice of proposed rulemaking on potentially eliminating the international settlements policy altogether. This notice recognizes the fundamental progress made in the marketplace while also asking important questions on areas where the Commission may need to maintain a more active presence. All of these measures have my full support.

I thank Chairman Genachowski for scheduling these long-pending proceedings for a vote. Ideally we would have eliminated a greater number of mandates. I am thus hopeful that we will complete our work to review the outstanding reporting requirements in an expeditious manner. Thank you to the International Bureau staff for your excellent work.